

## Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 RSR-01 RSC-01 SS-15 INR-10 CPR-02

/049 W

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R 211245 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4175

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 2572

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SA ( CATTON, GENERAL JACK)

REF: STATE 120249

1. APPRECIATE DEPT' S REFFERRING TO US PROTOCOL  
QUESTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH GENERAL CATTON' S VISIT.
2. WE HAD, OF COURSE, BEEN KEPT INFORMED BY USMTM OF  
CATTON' S PROGRAM WHICH AS DEPT. INDICATES HAS BEEN PLANNED  
ENTIRELY AS OPERATIONAL VISIT TO PERMIT HIM INSPECT  
PEACEHAWK.
3. IN LIGHT OF THIS FACT, IT HAD NOT SEEMED NECESSARY  
ARRANGE CALL ON SULTAN. WITH REGULAR VISITS BY DEPUTY  
CINCEUR AND MOST RECENTLY BY GENERAL GOODPASTER HIMSELF,  
WE HAVE FELT APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVEL US MILITARY  
REPEAT MILITARY CONTACTS WITH PRINCE SULTAN WERE BEING  
MAINTAINED. LATTER INCLINED BE MORE CONCERNED WITH A  
VISITOR' S PURPOSE THAN HIS MILITARY RANK. ACCORDINGLY,  
CALLS BY CATTON ON EASTERN PROVINCE MILITARY COMMANDER AND RSAF  
BASE COMMANDER AT DHAHRAN SEEM TO US QUITE SUFFICIENT.
4. DURING HIS RECENT VISIT HERE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE NOYES MENTIONED THAT PERHAPS SECRETARY  
OF ARMY OR NAVY MIGHT SOMETIME WITHIN NEXT FEW MONTHS BE  
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INTERESTED IN PAYING VISIT SAUDI ARABIA. IT WORTH NOTING THAT SUCH REPRESENTATIVES ARE OF COURSE MUCH MORE NEARLY SULTAN' S COUNTERPARTS AND IT WOULD BE DESIREABLE THEY ENDEAVOR SEE PRINCE IF AT ALL POSSIBLE OR, AS FORMER NAVY SECRETARY CHAFEE DID WHEN HE CAME TO DHAHRAN WHILE SULTAN WAS IN JIDDA, SEND PERSONAL MESSAGE EXPLAINING WHY SCHEDULE MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE COURTESY CALL.

5. WHILE WE DO NOT CONSIDER LETTER BY CATTON TO SULTAN REQUIRED ON PROTOCOL GROUNDS, IT WOULD BE NICE GESTURE. ALTERNATIVELY, WE MAY SUGGEST GENERAL SMITH SIMPLY PROVIDE SULTAN ORALLY WITH ACCOUNT OF CATTON VISIT INCLUDING PRESUMABLY AFFIRMATION THAT CATTON HAD LOOKED OVER PEACEHAWK PROGRAM AND FOUND IT FUNCTIONING SATISFACTORILY. LATTER WILL BE ASPECT OF CATTON VISIT OF MOST INTEREST TO SULTAN.

6. DCM HORAN WILL BE IN DHAHRAN TO PARTICIPATE IN CATTON BRIEFINGS.  
THACHER

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* STADIS  
\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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